Calvary Methodist Church was founded in 1821 by Reverend Richard Webster, who lived in Webster's Forest (HA-442). By 1825, the church was already hosting large camp meetings regularly bringing hundreds of people to camp on the grounds while visiting preachers slept in the Church.

Built 40 years after the Deer Creek Friends Meeting House (1784) and 40 years before the Mount Carmel Methodist Church (1865), the Cavalry Methodist Church is an important link in the county's tradition of one-story, gable-roofed stone churches. The earlier meeting house belongs to the patented Quaker idiom, the later to the more elegant and formal Greek Revival style. Calvary Methodist church, more primitive architecturally than both, represents the founding of the new Methodist tradition in Harford County and stylistically has no links to other traditions: it represents a logical, unself-conscious use of local resources--a vernacular church in the best sense of the word.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

HISTORIC	F . 1 10 1 T1 1 T1 T1			
	Methodist Episcopal Cl	nurch		
AND/OR COMMON				
LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER	o of Cavalmy Boad			
CITY, TOWN	e of Cavalry Road		CONGRESSIONAL DIST	RICT
Churchvi	ille,	VICINITY OF		•
STATE Maryland	21028		COUNTY Harford .	
CLASSIFIC	ATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	SENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
XBUILDING(S)	XPRIVATE	_UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENT **RELIGIOUS**
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE YES: RESTRICTED	ENTERTAINMENT	SCIENTIFIC
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATIO
	REING CONSIDERED			
	BEING CONSIDERED	NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
OWNER OF			MILITARY	OTHER:
	PROPERTY			
NAME CONTACT:	PROPERTY			OTHER: 734-6669
NAME CONTACT: Mary Vo	PROPERTY			
NAME CONTACT: Mary Vo STREET & NUMBER 412 Car	PROPERTY olz valry Road		Telephone #:	734–6669
NAME CONTACT: Mary Vo STREET & NUMBER 412 Car CITY. TOWN Church	PROPERTY olz valry Road ville,	_NO	Telephone #:	
NAME CONTACT: Mary Vo STREET & NUMBER 412 Car CITY. TOWN Church	PROPERTY olz valry Road	_NO	Telephone #:	734–6669
NAME CONTACT: Mary Vo STREET & NUMBER 412 Car CITY. TOWN Church LOCATION COURTHOUSE.	PROPERTY olz valry Road ville, OF LEGAL DESCR	_NO _→ICINITY OF RIPTION	Telephone #: STATE, Maryland	734–6669
NAME CONTACT: Mary Volume Name 412 Car CITY. TOWN Church LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS,	PROPERTY olz valry Road ville,	_NO _→ICINITY OF RIPTION	Telephone #: STATE, Maryland Liber #:	734–6669
NAME CONTACT: Mary Vo STREET & NUMBER 412 Car CITY. TOWN Church LOCATION COURTHOUSE.	PROPERTY olz valry Road ville, OF LEGAL DESCR	_NONCINITY OF RIPTION arthouse	Telephone #: STATE, Maryland Liber #:	734–6669
NAME CONTACT: Mary Volume Name 412 Car CITY. TOWN Church LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS,	PROPERTY olz valry Road ville, OF LEGAL DESCR	_NONCINITY OF RIPTION arthouse	Telephone #: STATE, Maryland Liber #:	734-6669 zip code 21028
NAME CONTACT: Mary Volumer STREET & NUMBER 412 Car CITY. TOWN Church COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN	PROPERTY olz valry Road ville, OF LEGAL DESCE ETC. Harford County Cou 40 South Main Stre Bel Air,	_NO _vicinity of RIPTION arthouse	Telephone #: STATE, Maryland Liber #: Folio #:	734-6669 zip code 21028
NAME CONTACT: Mary Volumer Vol	PROPERTY olz valry Road ville, OF LEGAL DESCE ETC Harford County Cou 40 South Main Stre	_NO _vicinity of RIPTION arthouse	Telephone #: STATE, Maryland Liber #: Folio #:	734-6669 zip code 21028
NAME CONTACT: Mary Volumer STREET & NUMBER 412 Car CITY. TOWN Church COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN	PROPERTY olz valry Road ville, OF LEGAL DESCE ETC. Harford County Cou 40 South Main Stre Bel Air,	_NO _vicinity of RIPTION arthouse	Telephone #: STATE, Maryland Liber #: Folio #:	734-6669 zip code 21028
NAME CONTACT: Mary Volumer Vol	PROPERTY olz valry Road ville, OF LEGAL DESCE ETC. Harford County Cou 40 South Main Stre Bel Air,	_NO PICINITY OF RIPTION arthouse eet	Telephone #: STATE, Maryland Liber #: Folio #:	734-6669 zip code 21028
NAME CONTACT: Mary Volumer Wary Of DEEDS, STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESENTILE	PROPERTY olz valry Road ville, OF LEGAL DESCE ETC. Harford County Cou 40 South Main Stre Bel Air,	_NO PICINITY OF RIPTION arthouse eet	Telephone #: STATE, Maryland Liber #: Folio #: STATE Maryland	734-6669 zip code 21028

7 DESCRIPTION

HA-997

CONDITION

XEXCELLENT
—GOOD
—FAIR

__DETERIORATED
__RUINS
__UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

_UNALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built between 1821 and 1824, this austere gable-roofed stone church is located on the east side of Cavalry Road, south of Snake Lane. The structure is a simple four bay by two bay block with no exterior ornament except for the stone quoins and massive lintels, and louvered and panelled shutters on the south and north sides, respectively. The roof has a wide overhang with exposed eaves. Each side has four 12/12 sash windows, and the west end has two elongated eight-light windows. The church is entered from the east end by two four-panel doors with five-light transoms. Also in this end are two 6/6 sash windows in the second story and a louvered opening in the gable (even the latter has a giant lintel).

Inside, the church consists of one room with an enclosed balcony (now used for the Sunday School). The two-run staircase with square balusters is in the southeast corner. The pulpit (made by Louis Mitchell) and raised altar are in the west end. The railing with heavily-turned balusters and newel posts is not the original one. The stained glass windows behind the altar have yellow panes with green borders and red corner panes.

Now enclosed, the balcony where the slaves sat has a panelled railing and rests on Doric columns.

The room has a beaded board wainscot and ceiling, although the original ceiling was arched.

PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW __COMMUNITY PLANNING __ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC _LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE X RELIGION _PREHISTORIC __LAW _1400-1499 __ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC __CONSERVATION __SCIENCE LITERATURE __1500-1599 __AGRICULTURE _ECONOMICS _SCULPTURE __1600-1699 **XARCHITECTURE** __EDUCATION __MILITARY _SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN

__1700-1799 __ART __ENGINEERING __MUSIC __THEATER \(\frac{1}{2}\)1800-1899 __COMMERCE __EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT __PHILOSOPHY __TRANSPORTATION __
__1900- __COMMUNICATIONS __INDUSTRY __POLITICS/GOVERNMENT __OTHER (SPECIFY)

_INVENTION

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cavalry Methodist Church was founded by Reverend Richard Webster, who lived nearby and owned the mill at Calvary. With his son, Richard Webster Jr., and his wife, Rachel, he conveyed the land to the trustees of the church on September 15, 1821, for five shillings. With the help of others, Richard Webster, Jr. built the church, and Samuel Dever, whose blacksmith shop stood in the northernmost field, made the nails.

Richard Webster, Sr., lived just to see it completed. Freeborn Garnettson wrote on April 25, 1824, "On the Lord's Day, in the morning I preached with much satisfaction in Abingdon Church, and then rode six miles and preached in a neat church, lately built in the forest, under the direction of old Reverend Webster, who at this time was dangerously ill. I was sent for to visit him and found him nigh unto death, joyfully waiting until his time should come. He was among the first who embraced religion when Methodist Preachers made their entrance into this part of the country about 56 years ago." (1825 Richard Tydings and W.S. Lumsden).

The first trustees were William D. Lee, William Billingslea, William Walters, William Smith, Richard Webster, Henry Webster, and Isaac Webster. The first minister, according to the church's first Bible, was Mr. Everist. Other records (in the possession of Mr. W. L. Baker) list the ministers as James Reid and N.B. Mills in 1821, Alfred Griffith and Henry Slicer in 1822, Asa Shinn and Joseph L. Gibbon in 1823, and Richard Tydings and Bazil Barry in 1824.

The Sunday School was probably not organized until 1863 and its first leaders were Annie Dever and Clara Lee and then Noah Webster and A.W. Kimble.

This church hosted a great many camp meetings. In the Harford Circuit Quarterly Conference Records (1799-1830), there is mention of a camp meeting held at Calvary in 1825. These had their beginning in America during the Great Revival, a period of deep religious fervor spanning the years between the American Revolution and the Civil War. Often camp meetings were served by a circuit rider-an itinerate horse-back preacher man. It is not known if this is how the Cavalry Methodist Church was operated continuously. However, the tradition probably started early, as Methodist Bishop Francis Asbury wrote in 1811 to circuit rider Jacobs Gruber "camp meetings were held in practically every state of the union." Camp meetings were generally non-denominational, but the Methodist Episcopal Church seems to have been the forerunner and principal adherent.

SEE CONTINUATION SHIET #1

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cavalry Methodist Episcopal Church Records
Lovely Lane Museum archives
Harford Circuit Quarterly (1799-1830)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY	
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION	
	RTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY
FORM PREPARED BY	COUNTY
FORM PREPARED BY NAME / TITLE	Surveyor DATE t Commission May, 1979
FORM PREPARED BY NAME / TITLE Natalie Shivers, Historic Sites ORGANIZATION	Surveyor

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438

According to the church's records, hundreds of people encamped on the grounds of the Cavalry hurch, while visiting preachers slept in the church. Camp meetings in general lasted from four days to a week, and included preaching, singing, and socializing. Camp meeting time was determined by crops and was usually planned for "laying by time"the lull between the first grain harvesting and early corn cutting when farmers could leave their fields.

Built 40 years after the Deer Creek Friends Meeting House (1784) and forty years before the Mount Carmel Methodist Church (1865) the Cavalry Methodist Church is an important link in the county's tradition of one-story, gable-roofed stone churches. The vertical proportions, long 9/9 sash windows, gable returns, and single end entrance, make the Greek revival Mt. Carmel Church the most elegant and formal of the three. Built in the simple Quaker manner, Deer Creek is low and broad with panelled shutters and side as well as end entrances. Cavalry Methodist church is more rustic than both of the others. Less horizontal than Deer Creek, though without the attenuation of Mt. Carmel, its massive stone lintels and quoins give this building a primitive quality not present in the other two. Deer Creek and Mt. Carmel are linked to other established architectural idioms; this one arose more as a logical, unself-conscious use of local resources.

INVENTORY NO. HA-997	ELECTION DISTRICT
DATE:	TAX MAP NO.
REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, min	nor PARCEL NO.
NAME OF PROPERTY: Cavalry ME Chu	ırch
LOCATION OF PROPERTY: East side Ca	lvary Rd. near Churchville
DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: East	1
NAME OF OWNER:	
ADDRESS:	
STORIES: 1[XX] 2[] 3[] 4[] 5	5[] 6[] BAYS:
WINGS, ADDITIONS:	
	·
WALL CONSTRUCTION:	
BRICK: Bond type- common, E	eatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten(type?) English, Flemish. Sketch variants. Eshlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILAST FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STO WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED	
WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1[] a pegged[] original	2/2[] 6/6[] 9/6[] 9/9[] other[X]] nailed[] wide[] narrow[X] [] replaced[]
ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: 2ea HARDWARE: origin FAN LIGHT, TRANSC	nal[] replaced[] DM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN
CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: Exposed original[] rep	laced[]
ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HI MATERIAL: wood shingles, s	IP, MANSARD, FLAT, DORMERS slate, tin, asphalt original[] replaced[]
PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed[]	<pre>hip[] gable[]</pre>
CHIMNEYS: NUMBER 1 BRICK[X] S LOCATION: South side	STONE[] CORBELED[] original[] replaced[]
ARCHES:	
COMMENTS:	•

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME				
HISTORIC Cal	vary Methodist Church			
AND/OR COMMON Cal	vary Methodist Church			
2 LOCATIO	N			
STREET & NUMBER	Calvary Road			_
CITY, TOWN	Churchville	VICINITY OF	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRI first	СТ
STATE	Maryland		COUNTY Harford County	
3 CLASSIFI	CATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
DISTRICT ★_BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT	PUBLIC _XPRIVATEBOTH PUBLIC ACQUISITIONIN PROCESSBEING CONSIDERED	XOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS ACCESSIBLE XYES: RESTRICTED YES UNRESTRICTED NO	AGRICULTURECOMMERCIALEDUCATIONALENTERTAINMENTGOVERNMENTINDUSTRIALMILITARY	MUSEUMPARKPRIVATE RESIDENCE X_RELIGIOUSSCIENTIFICTRANSPORTATIONOTHER
4 OWNER C	OF PROPERTY			
NAME Calv Rev STREET & NUMBER	vary Methodist Church I Reginald Cecil	nc.	Telephone #: 734	- 7113
3111	Churchville Road		STATE , Z	ip code
	chville	VICINITY OF		21028
5 LOCATIO COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEED	N OF LEGAL DESCR BARRETC. Harford County		Liber #: HD 5 Folio #: 253	GSN 12 408
STREET & NUMBER	45 South Main S	treet		
CITY, TOWN	Bel Air	101 660	STATE Maryland	
6 REPRESE	NTATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS		
DATE		FEDERAL	STATECOUNTYLOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS				
CITY, TOWN			STATE	



NX-777

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

XEXCELLENT __GOOD

__DETERIORATED

_XUNALTERED

X.ORIGINAL SITE

__FAIR

__RUINS __UNEXPOSED _MOVED DATE____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Calvary Methodist Church is located on Calvary Road (MD 136) just north of James Run. This simple, stone masonry structure is located on high ground and faces east.

This structure is one story high and four bays by two. The high pitched roof has been refurbished and is now covered with asphalt shingles. This gable front roof has wide eaves and a stone cornice. Entrance is gained on the east gable. Two large doors are at this end. These wooden doors have four moulded panels on each. Door knobs are brass and are located in the center of each door. A five light transom is located over each door. Windows at the first elevation are twelve lights over twelve. Shutters are present. The older, wooden moulded panel shutters are being replaced by louvered shutters. On the east end there are two windows at the second elevation. These are six lights over six. Near the point of the roof is a small, louvered window. A datestone above the doors in the center of the east side read: Calvary Church 1821, P.A. On the west end, near the point of the roof is a space where a datestone or vent may have been.

Masonry in this structure is especially notable: black basalt stones were dressed for use in the lintels and cornerstones, and are found at random with smaller grey granite set in fairly even courses.

A brick narrow chimney is located on the south west corner of the roof and has an open arch. Originally, there had been one on each side.

Inside, there is a balcony at the east end of the church, which has been enclosed to conserve heat. The ceilings in the church were originally dome shaped and this is visible in the loft. Walls and ceilings are plastered and chimney flues are visble on both the north and south walls. These had served two iron stoves. A stairway on the south east corner leads to the loft. The altar is located at the west end and still has the original communion rail. The pulpet, however has been moved and lowered.

A stone school house had been located west of the church. This was demolished in the 1930's.

A Webster family burial plot lies directly behind the church on the west side. It is separated from the rest of the cemetery by a wrought iron fence. Many prominent members of this community are buried in this cemetery.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	 RELIGION	
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	SCIENCE	
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE	
<u>_1600-1699</u>	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER	
-X1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		INVENTION			
SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1821	Paul Andrews BUILDER/ARCHITECT Nicholas Allender			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The land on which Calvary Methodist Church stands was conveyed to the original trustees of this church in 1821. The church was constructed soon after the conveyance of land. In a deed written on September 15, 1821, Richard Webster, Sr. and his wife Phebe and Richard Webster, Jr. and his wife Rachel granted one acre of the Webster tract, Best Endeavour, to William D. Lee, William Billingslea, William Watters, William Smith, Richard Webster, Henry Webster, and Isaac Webster, the original trustees of this church. The deed stepulated "that they shall erect and build or cause to be erected and built thereon a house or place of worship for the use of the members of the Wesleyan Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America."

The Church was founded by Rev. Richard Webster Sr. and most of the work of construction was done by his sons, although others helped. Samuel Dever was the smith who made the nails, his shop standing in the northern most field. Paul Andrews and Nicholas Allender were the masons.

The ground upon which the church was built, was part of the donor's own farm, and was selected because of the many excellent advantages the ground affords, both of the nearness to the people and for camp meetings. It proved to be a very fitting monument and memorial to Mr. Webster, who did not survive the completion of the undertaking by more than two years.

No record tells us upon what day the church first opened for worship, but it's first ministers were James Reid and N.B. Mills. The name of the latter appears on the fly leaf of an old leather-bound Bible which is still preserved by the church.

The Sunday School does not seem to have been permanently organized until about 1863. It's leaders at that time were Annie Dever and Clara Lee.

Many camp meetings have been held on the grounds of the Calvary Methodist Church, and hundreds have encamped on these grounds during revival services, the church itself serving as a sleeping place for visiting preachers.

From 1821-1843, Calvary Methodist Church was evidently a station for visiting ministers. In 1844, the East Harford Circuit of the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church was formed. It included Garrison Chapel, Aberdeen Smith, Rock Run, Bush, Gunpowder, and Calvary. The three branches of Methodism became one in 1939 and were united ith the Evangelical United Brethern in 1968, forming the United Methodist Church.

This small, country church has been changed very little from its original condition and has been used for one hundred and fifty five years.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

HA-977

STATE

Maryland

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Harford County Calvary United Methodist Church Booklet celebrating its 150th anniversary Personal notes of Mrs. George (Mary) Volz

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Bel Air

CITY OR TOWN

This land is bounded on the west by Calvary Road; on the south by a dirt lane; and on the north and east by the Davis Quarry Company.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES STATE COUNTY STATE COUNTY II FORM PREPARED BY NAME / TITLE Susan M. Deeney, Field Historian November 18. 1976 DATE ORGANIZATION 838-6000 ext. 207 Historic District Commission TELEPHONE STREET & NUMBER 45 South Main Street

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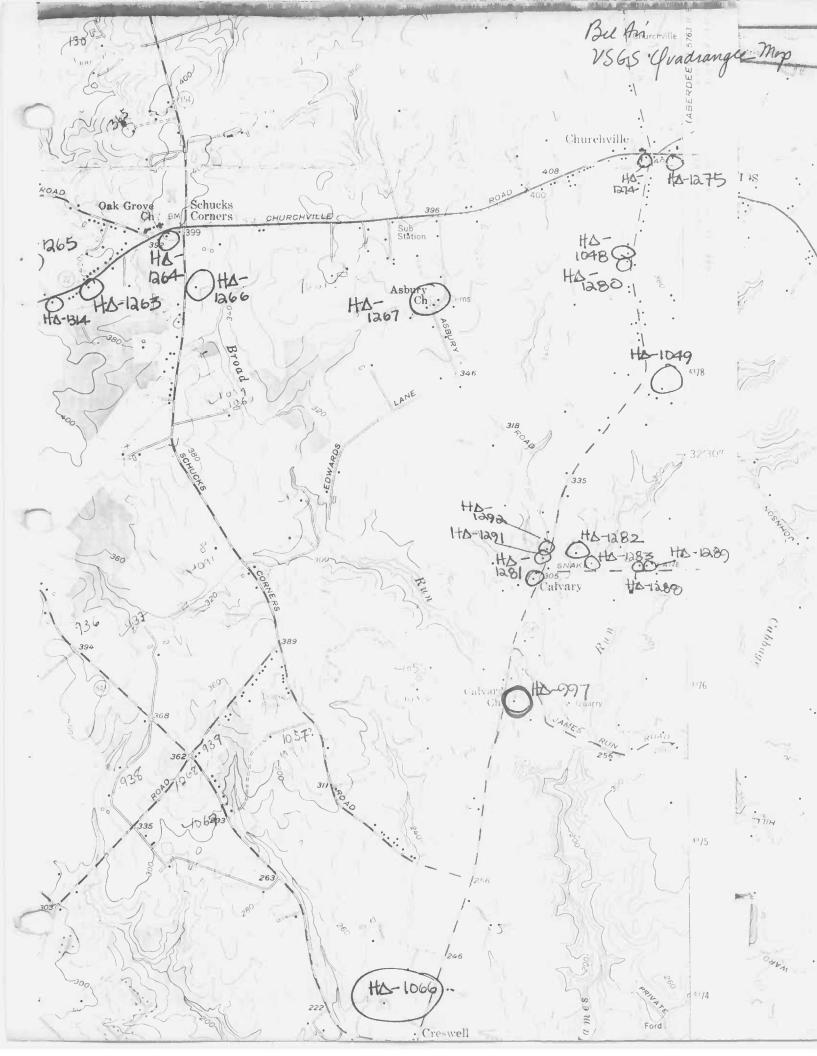
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

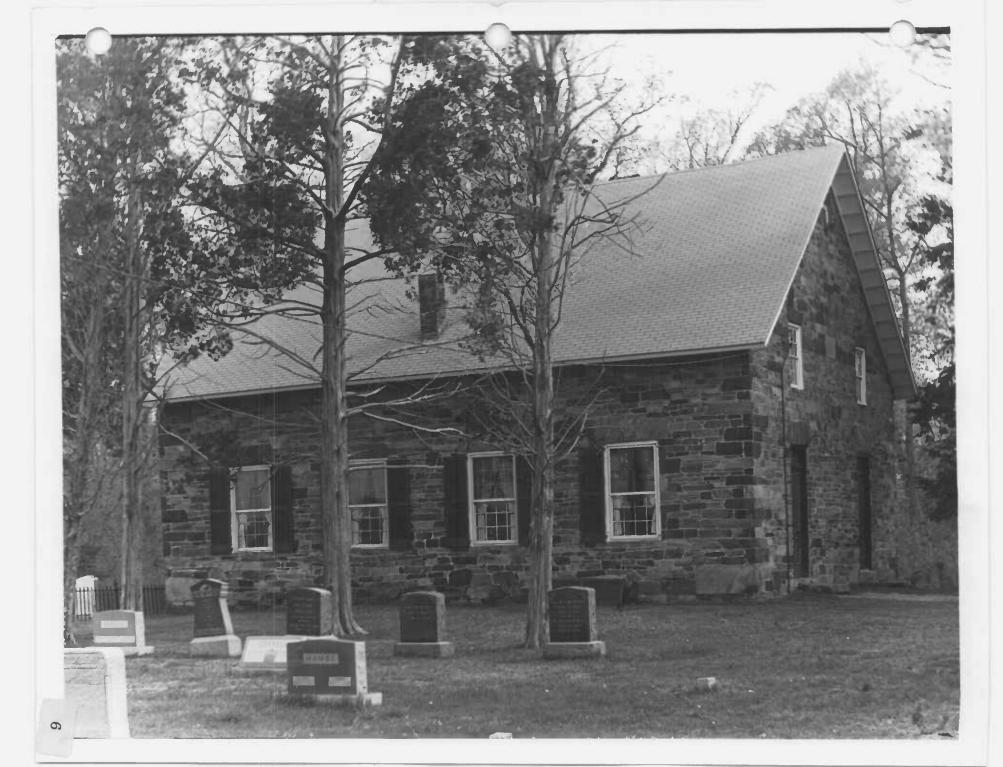
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438



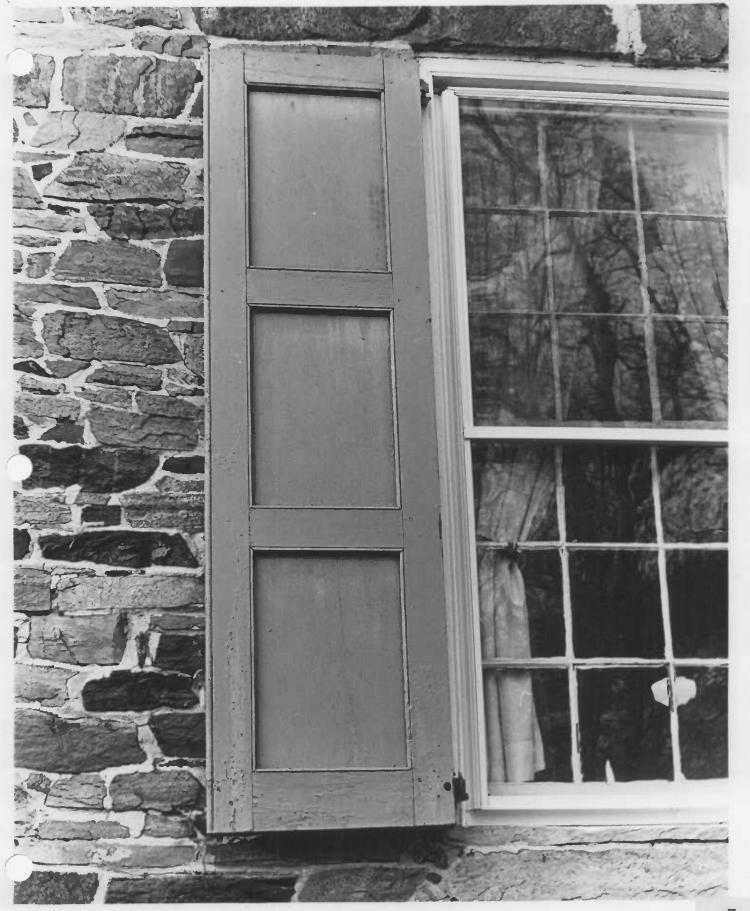




CALVARY METHODIST CHURCH near Churchville, Md. HA-997

view from southwest Photo by James T. Wollon, Jr.

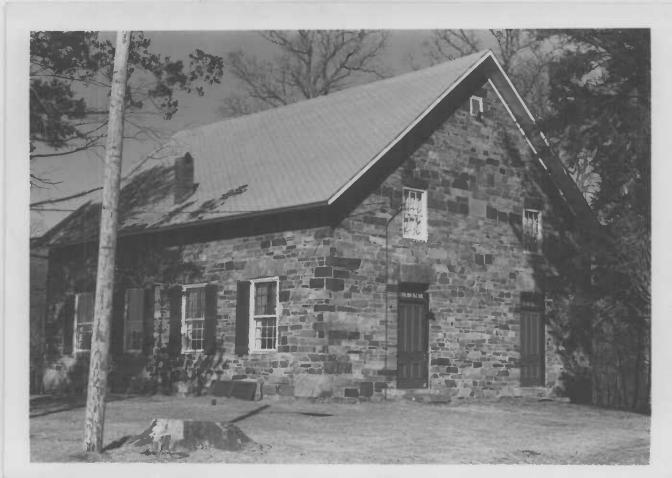
May 1978



CALVARY METHODIST CHURCH near Churchville, Md. HA-997

detail of shutter on east side Photo by James T. Wollon, Jr.

May 1978



HA-997

Cavalry Methodist Church Churchville, MD 21028 N. Shivers February, 1979 Southeast



HA-997

Cavalry Methodist Church Churchville, MD 21028

N. Shivers February, 1979 Northwest



Calvary Methodist Church HA-997 Churchville, MD Susan M. Deeney November, 1976 Southeast